

At the recent Tipping to Cool conference, the speaker, Malcom Gladwell talked about how we don't always need to think that big changes must happen slowly —

Well, Christie Brandau already knew that! ;)

We've gotten used to sitting in meetings and hearing her say:

Let's do that.

We can make this happen.

When is this and such ready to go?

There were times early on in her tenure here that we quietly wondered, what *will* she commit us to next?

In time, though, we jumped on her bandwagon and joined in her enthusiasm and positive can-do outlook.

The result of her empowerment of all of us, even in somewhat dim economic times, has been the realization of enormous and beneficial initiatives for the Library of Michigan and Michigan's libraries.

Just think — five years ago when we were anticipating her arrival, did anyone really think that within five years we would see things like

- *Statewide delivery
- *Remote authentication for MeL databases
- *MeLCat and patron initiated ILL
- *The new MeL and federated searching capabilities
- *A combined catalog with Michigan State University
- *Quality measures for public libraries and cooperatives
- *Partnerships with vendors like Thomson Gale and ProQuest
- *A Michigan Library Digitization Task Force

She envisions it — she makes it happen.

Kansas does not know what it's in for — but they'll be glad they've got her, once they get over the shock !

We at LM wish you happiness, satisfaction, and success in your new job and your new home, Christie. We'll miss you, but now that you've wound us up and showed us how to tackle things, we'll be determined not to slow down without you.